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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/734,211

12/15/2003

Akiko Onishi

00862.023368.

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02/22/2008

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EXAMINER

DICKERSON, CHAD S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2625

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

02/22/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/734,211	ONISHI, AKIKO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Chad Dickerson	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 November 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12/15/2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, see page 11, filed 11/30/2007, with respect to the claim objections have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objections of claims 1-12 have been withdrawn.
2. Applicant's arguments, see page 11, filed 11/30/2007, with respect to 101 rejections have been fully considered and are persuasive. The 101 rejections of claims 17 and 18 have been withdrawn.
3. Applicant's arguments, see page 11, filed 11/30/2007, with respect to the 112 2nd paragraph rejections have been fully considered and are persuasive. The 112 2nd paragraph rejections of claims 1-12, 15, and 17 have been withdrawn.
4. Applicant's arguments filed 11/30/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In the Amendment filed 11/30/2007, the Applicant asserted that the applied references of Mori '696, Gillihan '262 and Livingston '590 do not disclose the features of the amended independent claims. Specifically, the Applicant asserts that the feature of having a second screen for setting attributes for the back side of every page in a document. The Examiner respectfully disagrees with this assertion.

The Applicant gave a scenario involving a 50 page document with multiple back side pages having their back-side attributes set by one screen. In the claim language, the claim states "*a second setting screen to set a back-side attribute applied to all pages corresponding to the back side of the printing medium output in the double-sided*

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printing". The claim language does not specifically state having a multiple paged document and the screen setting the attributes for the back sides in the document. It simply states the attribute is set for "*all pages corresponding to the back side of the printing medium*". This does not have to be 50 pages, 25 pages or 10 pages. This can include 1 page that corresponds to the back side of the printing medium. In this case, three total pages can be considered to be edited in the system. The second page can be considered as the back-side page and this can be set specifically by the user to have a different angle of rotation, or some other different attribute than the other two pages. In this scenario, the screen the user edits relating to the second page can be considered as the second screen that is used to set back-side attribute applied to all the pages corresponding to the back of the printing medium (i.e. in this case it would be only one page). Therefore, with this scenario, the above feature is performed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-13 and 15-18 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being

anticipated by Mori '696 (US Pat No 7194696).

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Re claim 1: Mori '696 discloses a printing control method of converting original data into print data processible by a printing apparatus, comprising:

a displaying step of displaying a first setting screen to set a basic attribute applied to whole print data and (i.e. figure 14 illustrates a screen in which the whole document has document detail settings applied. The settings are considered analogous to the attributes that are applied to the print data; see fig. 14; col. 17, lines 3-55) a second setting screen to set a back-side attribute applied to all pages corresponding to the back-side of the printing medium output in the double-sided printing (i.e. an example of this scenario can be when a chapter or a book consists of three pages. The second page out of the three is used as the back-side in a duplex printing set. In this scenario, the setting screen in figures 17 or 18, can be chosen for that particular page to set page attributes. This can also be considered as another screen since this screen is setting attributes specifically for this page. In the above scenario, with one page as the only back-side page, the feature of setting an attribute for all the pages that correspond to the back-side of the printing medium during duplex printing is performed; see figs. 3-6 and 12-19; col. 11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62, col. 15, lines 10-56, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62);

a setting step of setting the basic attribute using the first setting screen (i.e. in Mori '696 the book attributes are also called document setting information (403), which is analogous to a basic setting applied to the whole print data. The Book attributes are applied to the attributes of all the print data pages that make up the book. One of the attributes that can be edited or changed is the Print Method attribute that refers to the

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Simplex, Duplex, or Bind-ready type printing; see figs. 3-4B and 14; col. 11, lines 26-50), and the back-side attribute using the second setting screen (i.e. in Mori '696 the page attribute screen shown in figures 17 and 18, which is analogous to the back-side attribute screen, is applied to both a front and a back side of a sheet serving as a printing medium in the double-sided printing setting configured by the book attribute. Since the page attribute performs the feature of the back-side attribute setting in the above scenario requiring a single back-side sheet in a chapter with only three pages, the above claim feature is performed; see fig. 6; col. 11, lines 3-50 and col. 12, lines 10-62); and

a determining step of determining whether an object page to be converted into print data corresponds to the front side of the printing medium or the back side of the printing medium (i.e. in the system, if the document is set to have duplex printing, the front and back parts of the pages can be set on the page attribute level. Based on the page attributes level, the system determines whether the page that was edited is, in fact, the front or back part of the page that was edited. If duplex printing is used in the system, the system clearly has to differentiate whether the page is a front or back side page and use the attributes that are applied to the specific page to reflect the accurate depiction of the printing information related to that page; see figs. 3-6 and 14-19; col. 11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62); and

a conversion step of converting the original data of the object page into the print data in accordance with the basic attribute when the object page is determined in said determining step to be corresponding to the front side of the printing medium,

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converting the original data of the object page into the print data in accordance with the back-side attribute when the object page is determined in said determining step to be corresponding to the back side of the printing medium (i.e. in the system of Mori '696, the settings of both the book attributes and the page attributes are applied to the pages in a document. These attributes are used by the book editing application in the conversion of the data to reflect the attributes set in the system. Figure 19 is an example of certain attributes in book, chapters and pages settings that effect individual pages and reflect the settings inputted by the user. When it comes to the conversion of a page in the system, the page is converted based on the page setting information. When in duplex printing, the front side of a duplex page is converted in terms of the page information related to the front page and the same conversion of the back page also occurs. Therefore, when the system prints any page in the system, the system refers to information shown in both figure 3 and figure 12. Figure 3 shows the page setting, or attribute, information for each page in the system, which can include the front or the back end of a page. Figure 12 shows the side information that is setting, or attribute, information specific to the side of a page; see figs. 3-6 and 12-19; col. 11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62, col. 15, lines 10-56, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62).

Re claim 2: The teachings of Mori '696 are disclosed above.

Mori '696 discloses the method, wherein in the conversion step, the basic attribute is applied for an item other than an item having the back-side attribute (i.e. in the system,

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when a higher level item, a book attribute, overlaps with a lower level item, a page attribute, the lower level item is given priority when it comes to what attribute to apply to a certain page. For instance, if a book attribute, considered as a basic attribute, overlaps in a setting with a page attribute, considered as a back-side attribute, the page attribute will be given priority and the attribute of the page will occur over the attribute of the book. Therefore, with the following example, the book attribute is applied to other pages in the document that do not have an overlapping page attribute and the feature of having the basic attribute applied to an item other than an item with a back-side attribute is performed with the following example; see fig. 6; col. 11, lines 3-50 and col. 12, lines 10-62).

Re claim 3: The teachings of Mori '696 are disclosed above.

Mori '696 discloses the method, wherein in the conversion step, the back-side attribute is applied to, as a unit, one side of the sheet serving as a printing medium (i.e. the page attribute changes the specific page that is authorized by the user. This page can be the back-side or the front side of a document, with a page attribute being applied. Also, the page attribute can be limited to a back-side of a sheet in the document that has a printing method using the duplex printing method. The sheet that has the page attribute serves as a printing medium that will be printed out once the printing is desired by the user; see figs. 3-6 and 14-19; col. 11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62).

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Re claim 5: The teachings of Mori '696 are disclosed above.

Mori '696 discloses the method, wherein in the conversion step, while the basic attribute and the back-side attribute are referred to, various parameters necessary to convert a page corresponding to a front side of a sheet and various parameters necessary to convert a page corresponding to a back side are loaded in advance (i.e. before performing the conversion in the system, the settings from the book and page attributes for the front and back-side of the pages are set by the user and loaded into the system after a file is specified and opened. The attributes are considered to be the parameters that allow for the necessary conversions of data into a front and back side page and are loaded into the system in advance before the actual conversion occurs to the specified document; see figs. 2-6 and 14-19; col. 7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 22-64, col. 11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62), and the parameters are alternately referred to in converting the pages (i.e. using both the book attributes and the page attributes, considered as the parameters, the data formed from the attributes are referred to in order to convert the pages in the user's desired form. Each page is converted by referring to the attributes for each page, from the first page to the last page alternately, to convert each page in the desired manner; see figs. 2-6 and 14-19; col. 7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 22-64, col. 11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62).

Re claim 6: The teachings of Mori '696 are disclosed above.

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Mori '696 discloses the method, wherein in the conversion step, every time a page of interest is to be converted, various parameters for use are loaded and referred to by referring to the basic attribute and the back-side attribute (i.e. when a page or pages is to be converted in the system, the attributes that contribute in forming the page of interest is loaded into the system to referred to by the printer driver in order to from the desired book or document. The settings referred to are both the book attributes and the page attributes, which are both considered as the basic and back-side settings; see figs. 2-6 and 14-19; col. 7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 22-64, col. 9, lines 24-66 and col. 10, lines 1-30, col. 11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62).

Re claim 7: The teachings of Mori '696 are disclosed above.

Mori '696 discloses the method, wherein the setting step comprises a sheet selection step of selecting a type of sheet serving as a printing medium, and types of sheets in the basic attribute and the back-side attribute are changed in accordance with the type of sheet selected in the sheet selection step (i.e. in the system, the chapter attribute is the attribute that affects the sheet selection. When the sheet selection is performed when setting the chapter attributes, this sheet selection changes the sheet types (i.e. A4 or A5), and that both the book attribute and the page attribute uses in the setting of their respective attributes. Also, the sheets types used in both the page and book attributes are changed and affects the settings of both attributes. Therefore, above feature is performed; see figs. 2-6 and 14-19; col. 7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 1-67, col. 9, lines 1-22, col. 11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62).

Re claim 8: The teachings of Mori '696 are disclosed above.

Mori '696 discloses the method, further comprising a step of, upon reception of a printing attribute value request from an application which generates the original data (i.e. the application (101) sends a predetermined, OS-dependent, output command to an output module of the OS which provides an interface. The output command includes data regarding print setting request that are in an original file form, but incomplete until the book editing application (104) works with the file; see fig. 1; col. 7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 1-67 and col. 9, lines 1-22), sending back a printing attribute value for generating original data convertible into print data corresponding to the basic attribute and the back-side attribute in the conversion step (i.e. with the book editing application (104) detecting an output command and the incomplete original file, the book editing application sends back to the electronic original writer (102) directions to make the original file complete in a manner that applies the settings of the book and page attributes to the output commanded by the application (101). These applied settings allow the original data to be converted into printable and complete data for use by the printer driver for output; see figs. 2-6 and 14-19; col. 7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 1-67, col. 9, lines 1-22, col. 11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62).

Re claim 9: The teachings of Mori '696 are disclosed above.

Mori '696 discloses the method, wherein in the setting step, a type of sheet subjected to printing can be selected (i.e. shown in figure 15, the paper size and orientation is an

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example of a type of sheet subjected to printing selected. In the figures, the types of sheets may be a different size and orientation; see figs. 3-6 and 14-19; col. 11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62), border-free printing attribute can be selected for each of the basic attribute and the back-side attribute in accordance with the selected type of sheet (i.e. with the book attribute being analogous to the basic setting, it is clear that the border line option in figure 14 reflects the choice of having a document printing with a border or a document that is border-free. Also, the page attributes are analogous to the back-side attributes since the page attributes deal with the front and back sides of sheets in the system. The page attributes can follow the attributes of the chapter and book attributes and because of this feature, the page attribute can have a border-free printing setting selected for the page attribute information in order to apply other page attribute editing to the selected page with the printing settings previously applied to a selected sheet; see figs. 3-6 and 14-19; col. 11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62), and when a type of sheet capable of border-free printing is set, a printable region of border-free printing is sent back to the application (i.e. once the user designates the option of having the page selected border-free, or no visible border line present, the editing options are sent back to the book editing application (104) from the user's input of settings to be sent to the application (101) in order for the application (101) to be able to make use of the electronic original writer (102) in order to convert an application data into an electronic original file; see figs. 1-6 and 14-19; col. 11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62).

Re claim 11: The teachings of Mori '696 are disclosed above.

Mori '696 discloses the method, wherein in the conversion step, when the double-sided printing attribute is done in the setting step (i.e. in the book attribute level, the system allows for the document to be formatted in the duplex, or double sided, printing method; see figs. 3-6 and 14-19; col. 11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62), original data of one page received from the application for one plane is converted into print data and output for all sheets subjected to printing (i.e. the front page or cover page of the document is received from an application (101) for the corresponding plane of the page and is converted into a print data when the book editing application (104) is used to convert the incomplete data into complete data that reflects the corresponding page of the duplex printing; see figs. 3-6 and 14-19; col. 11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62), and original data of each page received from the application for the other plane is converted into print data for the received page (i.e. the other pages that are received from the application are also converted into print data and these pages are considered to be the other plane. In the system of Mori '696, the pages, or planes of the pages, are all sent from the application (101) and converted into data edited by the book editing application (104) to make the print job received from the application a print job that reflects certain editing desired by the user and converted into a physical form; see figs. 3-6 and 14-19; col. 11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62).

Re claim 12: The teachings of Mori '696 are disclosed above.

Mori '696 discloses the method, wherein in the setting step, the basic attribute and the back-side attribute are changed in accordance with a printing attribute designated in the application (i.e. the user designates in the application (101) an output command that reflects the output. The book editing application is used to designate printing changes in the book and page attributes in the system. The user is allowed in the system to enter in settings regarding the modifications of the document that are used to affect the front and back-end of the pages. The book editing application (104) edits the document designated by the user for output with the changes of the book and page attributes; see figs. 3-6 and 14-19; col. 11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62).

Re claim 13: Mori '696 discloses a printing control method of converting input drawing data into print data printable by a printing apparatus and transferring the print data to the printing apparatus (see figure 13), comprising:

a step of determining a basic attribute applied to whole drawing data (i.e. when the user enters in settings regarding the book, chapter or page attributes, the book editing application determines if the settings are entered in the system. The book editing application determines when the user enters in book attribute information that affects the whole drawing data that is acquired through existing files or by the creation of the drawing data through the user's input into the system; see figs. 3-6 and 9-18; col.

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7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 1-67, col. 9, lines 1-66, col. 10, lines 1-66, col. 15, lines 1-58, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62);

a step of recording in a setting table the basic attribute determined in the basic setting determination step (i.e. the book setting information, considered as the basic settings, is stored on a local hard disk or a network drive. This information is stored in a structure that is similar to a setting table since it has separate data from other data in a block form shown in figure 12. Although the system does not specifically disclose a setting table, the organization of the data is similar to a table of settings pertaining to the book, chapter and page attribute information settings; see figs. 3-6 and 9-18; col. 7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 1-67, col. 9, lines 1-66, col. 10, lines 1-66, col. 15, lines 1-58, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62);

a step of, when the drawing data is printed on two sides of a sheet, determining a back-side attribute applied to only pages corresponding to back sides of the sheets (i.e. in the system, a setting for the back side of the paper can be applied to only the pages that are for the back-side of the sheet when the book attribute designates the document to be in duplex form. The system uses the book edit application (104), just like the book attribute information, to determine the page attribute settings, considered as the back-side settings; see figs. 3-6 and 9-18; col. 7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 1-67, col. 9, lines 1-66, col. 10, lines 1-66, col. 15, lines 1-58, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62);

a step of recording in the setting table the back-side attribute determined in the step of determining the back-side attribute (i.e. as illustrated in figure 12, the book, chapter and page attribute information are stored on a local hard disk or a network

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drive. This information is stored in a structure that is similar to a setting table since it has separate data from other data in the block illustrated in figure 12. Along with other settings, the page attribute information, considered as the back-side settings, is stored as an electronic original file (103). Although the system does not specifically disclose a setting table, the organization of the data is similar to a table of settings pertaining to the book, chapter and page attribute information settings; see figs. 3-6 and 9-18; col. 7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 1-67, col. 9, lines 1-66, col. 10, lines 1-66, col. 15, lines 1-58, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62); and

a generation step of generating the print data based on the basic attribute and the drawing data when the drawing data of an object page is data to be printed on the front side of the sheet, generating the print data based on the back-side attribute and the drawing data when the drawing data of the object page is data to be printed on the back side of the sheet (i.e. in the system of Mori '696, the settings of both the book attributes and the page attributes are applied to the pages in a document. These attributes are used by the book editing application in the generation of the data to reflect the attributes set in the system. Figure 19 is an example of certain attributes in book, chapters and pages settings that effect individual pages and reflect the settings inputted by the user. When it comes to the generation of a page in the system, the page is converted based on the page setting information and the actual original data that corresponds to the page, or data to the drawn on the page. When in duplex printing, the front side of a duplex page is generated in terms of the page information related to the front page and the same generation step of the back page also occurs. Therefore,

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when the system prints any page in the system, the system refers to information shown in both figure 3 and figure 12. Figure 3 shows the page setting, or attribute, information for each page in the system such as the actual original data to be drawn on the page, which can include the front or the back end of a page. Figure 12 shows the side information that is setting, or attribute, information specific to the side of a page such as the actual data, or original data, to be drawn on the page; see figs. 3-6 and 12-19; col. 11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62, col. 15, lines 10-56, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62).

Re claim 15: Mori '696 discloses a printing control apparatus which converts original data into print data processible by a printing apparatus, comprising:

display means for displaying a first setting screen to set a basic attribute applied to whole print data and (i.e. figure 14 illustrates a screen in which the whole document has document detail settings applied. The settings are considered analogous to the attributes that are applied to the print data; see fig. 14; col. 17, lines 3-55) a second setting screen to set a back-side attribute applied to all pages corresponding to the back-side of the printing medium output in the double-sided printing (i.e. an example of this scenario can be when a chapter or a book consists of three pages. The second page out of the three is used as the back-side in a duplex printing set. In this scenario, the setting screen in figures 17 or 18, can be chosen for that particular page to set page attributes. This can also be considered as another screen since this screen is setting attributes specifically for this page. In the above scenario, with one page as the only

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back-side page, the feature of setting an attribute for all the pages that correspond to the back-side of the printing medium during duplex printing is performed; see figs. 3-6 and 12-19; col. 11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62, col. 15, lines 10-56, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62);

setting means for setting the basic attribute using the first setting screen (i.e. in Mori '696 the book attributes are also called document setting information (403), which is analogous to a basic setting applied to the whole print data. The Book attributes are applied to the attributes of all the print data pages that make up the book. One of the attributes that can be edited or changed is the Print Method attribute that refers to the Simplex, Duplex, or Bind-ready type printing; see figs. 3-4B and 14; col. 11, lines 26-50), and the back-side attribute using the second setting screen (i.e. in Mori '696 the page attribute screen shown in figures 17 and 18, which is analogous to the back-side attribute screen, is applied to both a front and a back side of a sheet serving as a printing medium in the double-sided printing setting configured by the book attribute. Since the page attribute performs the feature of the back-side attribute setting in the above scenario requiring a single back-side sheet in a chapter with only three pages, the above claim feature is performed; see fig. 6; col. 11, lines 3-50 and col. 12, lines 10-62); and

determining means for determining whether an object page to be converted into print data corresponds to the front side of the printing medium or the back side of the printing medium (i.e. in the system, if the document is set to have duplex printing, the front and back parts of the pages can be set on the page attribute level. Based on the

page attributes level, the system determines whether the page that was edited is, in fact, the front or back part of the page that was edited. If duplex printing is used in the system, the system clearly has to differentiate whether the page is a front or back side page and use the attributes that are applied to the specific page to reflect the accurate depiction of the printing information related to that page; see figs. 3-6 and 14-19; col. 11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62); and

conversion means for converting the original data of the object page into the print data in accordance with the basic attribute when the object page is determined by said determining means to be corresponding to the front side of the printing medium, converting the original data of the object page into the print data in accordance with the back-side attribute when the object page is determined by said determining means to be corresponding to the back side of the printing medium (i.e. in the system of Mori '696, the settings of both the book attributes and the page attributes are applied to the pages in a document. These attributes are used by the book editing application in the conversion of the data to reflect the attributes set in the system. Figure 19 is an example of certain attributes in book, chapters and pages settings that effect individual pages and reflect the settings inputted by the user. When it comes to the conversion of a page in the system, the page is converted based on the page setting information. When in duplex printing, the front side of a duplex page is converted in terms of the page information related to the front page and the same conversion of the back page also occurs. Therefore, when the system prints any page in the system, the system refers to information shown in both figure 3 and figure 12. Figure 3 shows the page

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setting, or attribute, information for each page in the system, which can include the front or the back end of a page. Figure 12 shows the side information that is setting, or attribute, information specific to the side of a page; see figs. 3-6 and 12-19; col. 11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62, col. 15, lines 10-56, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62).

Re claim 16: Mori '696 discloses a printing control apparatus which converts input print data into print data printable by a printing apparatus and transferring the print data to the printing apparatus (see figure 13), comprising:

means for determining a basic attribute applied to whole drawing data (i.e. when the user enters in settings regarding the book, chapter or page attributes, the book editing application determines if the settings are entered in the system. The book editing application determines when the user enters in book attribute information that affects the whole drawing data that is acquired through existing files or by the creation of the drawing data through the user's input into the system; see figs. 3-6 and 9-18; col. 7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 1-67, col. 9, lines 1-66, col. 10, lines 1-66, col. 15, lines 1-58, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62);

means for recording in a setting table the basic setting determined by said basic attribute determination means (i.e. the book setting information, considered as the basic settings, is stored on a local hard disk or a network drive. This information is stored in a structure that is similar to a setting table since it has separate data from other data in a block form shown in figure 12. Although the system does not specifically disclose a

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setting table, the organization of the data is similar to a table of settings pertaining to the book, chapter and page attribute information settings; see figs. 3-6 and 9-18; col. 7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 1-67, col. 9, lines 1-66, col. 10, lines 1-66, col. 15, lines 1-58, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62);

means for, when the drawing data is to be printed on two sides of each of a sheet, determining a back-side attribute applied to only pages corresponding to back sides of the sheets (i.e. in the system, a setting for the back side of the paper can be applied to only the pages that are for the back-side of the sheet when the book attribute designates the document to be in duplex form. The system uses the book edit application (104), just like the book attribute information, to determine the page attribute settings, considered as the back-side settings; see figs. 3-6 and 9-18; col. 7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 1-67, col. 9, lines 1-66, col. 10, lines 1-66, col. 15, lines 1-58, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62);

means for recording in the setting table the back-side attribute determined by said means for determining the back-side attribute (i.e. as illustrated in figure 12, the book, chapter and page attribute information are stored on a local hard disk or a network drive. This information is stored in a structure that is similar to a setting table since it has separate data from other data in the block illustrated in figure 12. Along with other settings, the page attribute information, considered as the back-side settings, is stored as an electronic original file (103). Although the system does not specifically disclose a setting table, the organization of the data is similar to a table of settings pertaining to the book, chapter and page attribute information settings; see figs. 3-6 and

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9-18; col. 7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 1-67, col. 9, lines 1-66, col. 10, lines 1-66, col. 15, lines 1-58, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62); and

generation means for generating the print data based on the basic attribute and the drawing data when the drawing data of an object page is data to be printed on the front side of the sheet, generating the print data based on the back-side attribute and the drawing data when the drawing data of the object page is data to be printed on the back side of the sheet (i.e. in the system of Mori '696, the settings of both the book attributes and the page attributes are applied to the pages in a document. These attributes are used by the book editing application in the generation of the data to reflect the attributes set in the system. Figure 19 is an example of certain attributes in book, chapters and pages settings that effect individual pages and reflect the settings inputted by the user. When it comes to the generation of a page in the system, the page is converted based on the page setting information and the actual original data that corresponds to the page, or data to the drawn on the page. When in duplex printing, the front side of a duplex page is generated in terms of the page information related to the front page and the same generation step of the back page also occurs. Therefore, when the system prints any page in the system, the system refers to information shown in both figure 3 and figure 12. Figure 3 shows the page setting, or attribute, information for each page in the system such as the actual original data to be drawn on the page, which can include the front or the back end of a page. Figure 12 shows the side information that is setting, or attribute, information specific to the side of a page such as the actual data, or original data, to be drawn on the page; see figs. 3-6 and 12-19; col.

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11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62, col. 15, lines 10-56, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62).

Re claim 17: Mori '696 discloses computer-readable medium storing a computer program for recording a program for converting original data into print data processible by a printing apparatus (i.e. see col. 25, line 45 – col. 26, line 32; also see figure 13), the program comprising:

a displaying step of displaying a first setting screen to set a basic attribute applied to whole print data and (i.e. figure 14 illustrates a screen in which the whole document has document detail settings applied. The settings are considered analogous to the attributes that are applied to the print data; see fig. 14; col. 17, lines 3-55) a second setting screen to set a back-side attribute applied to all pages corresponding to the back-side of the printing medium output in the double-sided printing (i.e. an example of this scenario can be when a chapter or a book consists of three pages. The second page out of the three is used as the back-side in a duplex printing set. In this scenario, the setting screen in figures 17 or 18, can be chosen for that particular page to set page attributes. This can also be considered as another screen since this screen is setting attributes specifically for this page. In the above scenario, with one page as the only back-side page, the feature of setting an attribute for all the pages that correspond to the back-side of the printing medium during duplex printing is performed; see figs. 3-6 and 12-19; col. 11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62, col. 15, lines 10-56, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62);

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a setting step of setting the basic attribute using the first setting screen (i.e. in Mori '696 the book attributes are also called document setting information (403), which is analogous to a basic setting applied to the whole print data. The Book attributes are applied to the attributes of all the print data pages that make up the book. One of the attributes that can be edited or changed is the Print Method attribute that refers to the Simplex, Duplex, or Bind-ready type printing; see figs. 3-4B and 14; col. 11, lines 26-50), and the back-side attribute using the second setting screen (i.e. in Mori '696 the page attribute screen shown in figures 17 and 18, which is analogous to the back-side attribute screen, is applied to both a front and a back side of a sheet serving as a printing medium in the double-sided printing setting configured by the book attribute. Since the page attribute performs the feature of the back-side attribute setting in the above scenario requiring a single back-side sheet in a chapter with only three pages, the above claim feature is performed; see fig. 6; col. 11, lines 3-50 and col. 12, lines 10-62); and

a determining step of determining whether an object page to be converted into print data corresponds to the front side of the printing medium or the back side of the printing medium (i.e. in the system, if the document is set to have duplex printing, the front and back parts of the pages can be set on the page attribute level. Based on the page attributes level, the system determines whether the page that was edited is, in fact, the front or back part of the page that was edited. If duplex printing is used in the system, the system clearly has to differentiate whether the page is a front or back side page and use the attributes that are applied to the specific page to reflect the accurate

depiction of the printing information related to that page; see figs. 3-6 and 14-19; col. 11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62); and

a conversion step of converting the original data of the object page into the print data in accordance with the basic attribute when the object page is determined in said determining step to be corresponding to the front side of the printing medium, converting the original data of the object page into the print data in accordance with the back-side attribute when the object page is determined in said determining step to be corresponding to the back side of the printing medium (i.e. in the system of Mori '696, the settings of both the book attributes and the page attributes are applied to the pages in a document. These attributes are used by the book editing application in the conversion of the data to reflect the attributes set in the system. Figure 19 is an example of certain attributes in book, chapters and pages settings that effect individual pages and reflect the settings inputted by the user. When it comes to the conversion of a page in the system, the page is converted based on the page setting information. When in duplex printing, the front side of a duplex page is converted in terms of the page information related to the front page and the same conversion of the back page also occurs. Therefore, when the system prints any page in the system, the system refers to information shown in both figure 3 and figure 12. Figure 3 shows the page setting, or attribute, information for each page in the system, which can include the front or the back end of a page. Figure 12 shows the side information that is setting, or attribute, information specific to the side of a page; see figs. 3-6 and 12-19; col. 11,

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lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62, col. 15, lines 10-56, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62).

Re claim 18: Mori '696 discloses a computer-readable medium storing a computer program for converting input drawing data into print data printable by a printing apparatus and transferring the print data to the printing apparatus (i.e. see col. 25, line 45 – col. 26, line 32; also see figure 13), the program comprising:

a step of determining a basic attribute applied to the whole drawing data (i.e. when the user enters in settings regarding the book, chapter or page attributes, the book editing application determines if the settings are entered in the system. The book editing application determines when the user enters in book attribute information that affects the whole drawing data that is acquired through existing files or by the creation of the drawing data through the user's input into the system; see figs. 3-6 and 9-18; col. 7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 1-67, col. 9, lines 1-66, col. 10, lines 1-66, col. 15, lines 1-58, col. 17, lines 15-66, col. 18, lines 1-62 and col. 25, lines 45-66);

a step of recording in a setting table the basic attribute determined in the basic setting determination step (i.e. the book setting information, considered as the basic settings, is stored on a local hard disk or a network drive. This information is stored in a structure that is similar to a setting table since it has separate data from other data in a block form shown in figure 12. Although the system does not specifically disclose a setting table, the organization of the data is similar to a table of settings pertaining to the book, chapter and page attribute information settings; see figs. 3-6 and 9-18; col. 7,

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lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 1-67, col. 9, lines 1-66, col. 10, lines 1-66, col. 15, lines 1-58, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62);

when the drawing data is printed on two sides of each of a sheet, determining a back-side attribute applied to only pages corresponding to back sides of the sheets (i.e. in the system, a setting for the back side of the paper can be applied to only the pages that are for the back-side of the sheet when the book attribute designates the document to be in duplex form. The system uses the book edit application (104), just like the book attribute information, to determine the page attribute settings, considered as the back-side settings. The book, chapter and page level settings can be implemented on a single page to a plurality of pages that are designated as front and back-side pages in duplex printing; see figs. 3-6 and 9-18; col. 7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 1-67, col. 9, lines 1-66, col. 10, lines 1-66, col. 15, lines 1-58, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62);

recording in the setting table the back-side attribute determined in the step of determining the back-side attribute (i.e. as illustrated in figure 12, the book, chapter and page attribute information are stored on a local hard disk or a network drive. This information is stored in a structure that is similar to a setting table since it has separate data from other data in the block illustrated in figure 12. Along with other settings, the page attribute information, considered as the back-side settings, is stored as an electronic original file (103). Although the system does not specifically disclose a setting table, the organization of the data is similar to a table of settings pertaining to the book, chapter and page attribute information settings; see figs. 3-6 and 9-18; col. 7,

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lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 1-67, col. 9, lines 1-66, col. 10, lines 1-66, col. 15, lines 1-58, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62); and

a generation step of generating the print data based on the basic attribute and the drawing data when the drawing data of an object page is data to be printed on the front side of the sheet, generating the print data based on the back-side attribute and the drawing data when the drawing data of the object page is data to be printed on the back side of the sheet (i.e. in the system of Mori '696, the settings of both the book attributes and the page attributes are applied to the pages in a document. These attributes are used by the book editing application in the generation of the data to reflect the attributes set in the system. Figure 19 is an example of certain attributes in book, chapters and pages settings that effect individual pages and reflect the settings inputted by the user. When it comes to the generation of a page in the system, the page is converted based on the page setting information and the actual original data that corresponds to the page, or data to be drawn on the page. When in duplex printing, the front side of a duplex page is generated in terms of the page information related to the front page and the same generation step of the back page also occurs. Therefore, when the system prints any page in the system, the system refers to information shown in both figure 3 and figure 12. Figure 3 shows the page setting, or attribute, information for each page in the system such as the actual original data to be drawn on the page, which can include the front or the back end of a page. Figure 12 shows the side information that is setting, or attribute, information specific to the side of a page such as the actual data, or original data, to be drawn on the page; see figs. 3-6 and 12-19; col.

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11, lines 3-50, col. 12, lines 10-62, col. 15, lines 10-56, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 4 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mori '696, as applied to claims 1 and/or 13, and in further view of Gillihan '262 (US Pat No 6842262).

Re claim 4: The teachings of Mori '696 are disclosed above.

Mori '696 discloses the method, wherein in the conversion step, data generated by an operating system is converted into the print data in accordance with the basic attribute and the back-side attribute while the back-side attribute is preferentially applied (i.e. whether the data is imported into the system, or the file of the document already exist, the data generated by the operating system is converted into the print data that is in accordance with the book attribute information, considered as the basic setting, and the page attribute information, considered as the back-side setting. This can occur by the user setting the appropriate settings and the conversion occurring to the document, after the appropriate settings are entered in by the user and performed by the system;

However, Mori '696 fails to teach metadata.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Gillihan '262. Gillihan '262 discloses metadata (i.e. an electric document can be printed from an application program to an intermediate metafile that is stored in memory. The intermediate metafile can be edited and translated into a specific PDL in order to be printed by a printer. The metafile is considered to be the metadata since the metafile is simply data that describes some other data, which is the definition of metadata; see col. 5, lines 22-29).

Therefore, in view of Gillihan '262, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have metadata in order to have data transferred to a metafile format that can be used for printing (as stated in Gillihan '262 col. 3, lines 20-36).

Re claim 14: The teachings of Mori '696 are disclosed above.

Mori '696 discloses the method, wherein the generation step comprises

a step of loading a first page of the drawing data from data generated by an operating system (i.e. in Mori '696, when the system needs to make a determination of whether a document needing to be opened is a new file or an existing file, the system loads the information into the system in a certain format depending on the preexistence of the file on the operating system. If the file, which is data that consists of an image, graphics or letters, is newly created, it is loaded in a predetermined format for newly created files. This is an example of loading a first page and other pages of data that is drawn or created by the data generated by operating system; see figs. 1-3 and 7; see

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figs. 3-6 and 9-18; col. 7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 1-67, col. 9, lines 1-66, col. 10, lines 1-66, col. 13, lines 1-39, col. 15, lines 1-58, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62),

a step of converting data of the first page into print data in accordance with the basic setting and the back-side setting while preferentially applying the back-side setting (i.e. when the first page of data is loaded into the system and the page reflects data that is already existing on the operating system. The book, chapter and page attribute information is reflected in the document and the book and page attribute information is analogous to the basic and back-side setting information. In the system, the lowest level attribute information is given priority over the higher level attributes, so the page attribute information is given precedence over the book and chapter attribute information. This is analogous to a back-side setting being preferentially applied if the page and book attribute information has overlapping features applied to a document. Not only are these settings applied to a first page, but they are also applied to other pages; see figs. 1-6 and 9-18; col. 7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 1-67, col. 9, lines 1-66, col. 10, lines 1-66, col. 15, lines 1-58, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62),

a step of storing the print data of the first page (i.e. when the application is instructed to print data, the original made up of pages defined by the application is stored as an electronic original file (103) in a storage medium (103). This stores the data that is to be printed, which includes a first page, and the data to be printed is considered to be print data; see figs. 1-6 and 9-18; col. 7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 1-67, col. 9, lines 1-66, col. 10, lines 1-66, col. 15, lines 1-58, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62),

a step of loading data of each of second and subsequent pages in the drawing data from the data (i.e. in Mori '696, when the system needs to make a determination of whether a document needing to be opened is a new file or an existing file, the system loads the information into the system in a certain format depending on the preexistence of the file on the operating system. If the file, which is data that consists of an image, graphics or letters, is newly created, it is loaded in a predetermined format for newly created files. This is an example of loading a first page and other pages of data that is drawn or created by the data generated by operating system. The other pages also loaded into the system is considered as second and subsequent pages in the data drawn or created by the application (101); see figs. 1-3 and 7; see figs. 3-6 and 9-18; col. 7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 1-67, col. 9, lines 1-66, col. 10, lines 1-66, col. 13, lines 1-39, col. 15, lines 1-58, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62),

a step of converting the data of each of the second and subsequent pages into print data in accordance with the back-side setting (i.e. when the other pages of data are loaded into the system and the pages reflect data that is already existing on the operating system. The book, chapter and page attribute information is reflected in the document and the book and page attribute information is analogous to the basic and back-side setting information. Not only are these settings applied to a first page, but they are also applied to other pages; see figs. 1-6 and 9-18; col. 7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 1-67, col. 9, lines 1-66, col. 10, lines 1-66, col. 15, lines 1-58, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62),

a step of outputting the print data of the second and subsequent pages to a printer (i.e. the despooler (105) outputs the drawing data that has been edited by the book editing application (104) and this data is outputted to the printer driver (106) of the printer in the system. This feature allows for the second and subsequent pages to be output; see figs. 1-6 and 9-18; col. 7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 1-67, col. 9, lines 1-66, col. 10, lines 1-66, col. 15, lines 1-58, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62), and

However, Mori '696 fails to teach a step of outputting the print data of the first page to the printer after outputting the print data of the second and subsequent pages and metadata.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Gillihan '262. Gillihan '262 discloses a step of outputting the print data of the first page to the printer after outputting the print data of the second and subsequent pages (i.e. the order in which pages are to be printed can be changed in Gillihan '262. The first page can be rearranged to another position in printing. The above claim feature of Gillihan '262 performs the feature of outputting print data of the first page after outputting the print data of the second and subsequent pages; see fig. 6; col. 4, lines 31-65) and

metadata (i.e. an electric document can be printed from an application program to an intermediate metafile that is stored in memory. The intermediate metafile can be edited and translated into a specific PDL in order to be printed by a printer. The metafile is considered to be the metadata since the metafile is simply data that describes some other data, which is the definition of metadata; see col. 5, lines 22-29).

Therefore, in view of Gillihan '262, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the method of outputting print data of the first page to the printer after outputting the print data of the second and subsequent pages and have metadata in order to change the order in which pages are printed and to have data transferred to a metafile format that can be used for printing (as stated in Gillihan '262 col. 3, lines 20-37 and col. 4, lines 52-65).

9. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mori '696, as applied to claim 1 above, and in further view of Livingston '590 (US Pat No 6621590).

Re claim 10: The teachings of Mori '696 are disclosed above.

Mori '696 discloses the method, wherein in the setting step, monochrome printing can be selected for each of the basic attribute and the back-side attribute (i.e. in the system, it is clear that most printing systems offer and chose to print documents in black and white. In Mori '696, it is understood that the system chooses to print documents in black and white in order to offer the print out to a user. For both the book and page attribute information, which both are considered analogous to basic and back-side settings, it is clear that the system automatically chooses the black and white, or monochrome, printing to be selected; see figs. 1-3 and 7; see figs. 3-6 and 9-18; col. 7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 1-67, col. 9, lines 1-66, col. 10, lines 1-66, col. 13, lines 1-39, col. 15, lines 1-58, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62), and printing attribute is sent back to the application (i.e. the printing settings set by the user through the book and page

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work with the other application (101) and the electronic original writer (102) to make a complete printable document for the system to print reflecting the editing changes; see figs. 1-3 and 12-14; see figs. 3-6 and 9-18; col. 7, lines 40-65, col. 8, lines 1-67, col. 9, lines 1-66, col. 10, lines 1-66, col. 13, lines 1-39, col. 15, lines 1-58, col. 17, lines 15-66 and col. 18, lines 1-62).

However, Mori '696 fails to teach color printing can be selected for each of the basic attribute and the back-side attribute, and color printing attribute is sent back to the application.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Livingston '590. Livingston '590 discloses color printing or monochrome printing can be selected for each of the basic attribute and the back-side attribute, and color printing attribute is sent back to the application (i.e. Livingston '590 provides the setting for choosing color text instead of the normal black and white text. The choices of printing between the two available print color options are available. With the incorporation of this feature, once the choice is made, the color printing option in Livingston '590 can be used to be sent back to the application in the invention of Mori '696; see figs. 3-5; col. 5, lines 1-26).

Therefore, in view of Livingston '590, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have color printing or monochrome printing can selected for each of the basic setting and the back-side setting, and color printing setting is sent back to the application in order to offer the user-selectable feature of choosing color text or using black and white text (as stated in Livingston '590 col. 5, lines 1-26).

Conclusion

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

11. Nara '177 (US Pub No 2003/0056177) discloses a system that is able to allow the user to input settings regarding the pages in the system and converts the pages in the system in accordance to the settings that the user desires. This includes the settings of both the front and back sides of the paper in the system. After the paper has been converted in the desired manner, it can be output to the printer in the system.

12. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chad Dickerson whose telephone number is (571)-270-

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1351. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. thru Thur. 9:00-6:30 Fri. 9:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached on (571)-272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

CD/ *CD*
Chad Dickerson
February 8, 2008



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PRIMARY EXAMINER